Study by ICAR regarding nutritional value of Potato

*99. SHRI BHAGATRAM MANHAR:

SHRI BIR BHADRA PRATAP SINGH:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Indian Council of Agricultural Research had recently conducted a study on potatoes and had found that potato is a balanced vegetable having nutritive values;

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard;

(c) whether it is a fact that this vegetable is discarded by people on the ground that it lacks high quality protein contents; and

(d) if so, what are the protein contents in potatoes according to the study made by the ICAR?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI BHAJAN LAL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Potato contains 15-18 per cent starch, 22.5 per cent Proteins, 5 per cent lysine, 1.0 per cent minerals, 0.6 per cent fibres, 0.1 per cent fats and about 20 mg per 100 mg. vitamin-C.

(c) Some people have wrong notion that potatoes do not contain enough high quality protein.

(d) Potato contains 2-2. 5 per cent protein on fresh weight basis. On a dry weight basis protein content in potato is about 8-10 per cent.

Problems of the fertilizer industry

*100. SHRI D. B. CHANDRE GOWDA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether according to the Fertilizer Association of India (FAI) the fertilizer industry in the country is facing very hard times despite an increase in the subsidy in the 1989-90 budget;

(b) if so, whether Government propose to further review the condition of the fertilizer industry in the country; and

(c) if so, what further concessions Government propose to give to the fertilizer industry?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI BHAJAN LAL): (a) to (c) With a view to reduce the ever increasing burden of subsidy, Government have recently fixed higher norms of capacity utilisation and longer period of depreciation effective from 1st April, 1988 in the retention price and subsidy scheme. The Fertilizer Association of India has represented against this decision and has pointed out that the industry may face a hard time as a result of the above decision. The Government is examining the representation receivd from Fertilizer Association of India and others in this regard.

Sale of Moong|Moong dal to Army Purchase Organisation by NCCF, Delhi branch without assessment of market rates

465. SHRI PUTTAPAGA RADHAKRISHNA: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether NCCF, Delhi Branch obtained an order for supply of 2000 MTs Moong|Moong dal to Army Purchase Organisation in October|November 1987;

(b) whether it is a fact that Branch Manager, Delhi Branch in NCCF offered very low rates to APO without counter arrangements of stocks and market assessment of rates;

(c) whether it is also a fact that in fulfilling the commitment made by its Branch Manager, NCCF had to provide Bank Guarantee to APO for covering the Risk Purchases by the APO on behalf of NCCF; and

(d) if so, what action has been taken against the Branch Manager responsible for bringing avoidable losses to NCCF?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI D. L. BAITHA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The rates offered by NCCF Delhi Branch were lower than those quoted by other tenderers. However NCCF did not simultaneously make counter arrangement simultaneously make counter arrangements for supply of stocks.

(c) NCCF provided Bank guarantee to the Army Purchase Organisation against 500 MTs of Moong whole which were supplied. However, no bank guarantee was provided in respect of 1500 MTs of Moong Dal Chilka, stocks of which were not supplied to APO.

(d) No loss has so far been incurred by the NCCF because of failure to effect supplies of 1500 MTs of Moong Dal Chilka. The matter has been taken up by the NCCF with the APO.

Selection of Hindi Specialists for Secondment to Japan Broadcasting Corporation

466. SHRI RAM AWADHESH SINGH: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that All India Radio propose to conduct a written test for selection of a Hindi Specialist from amongst its staff for Secondment to Japan Broadcasting Corporation; and

(b) if so, whether Government propose to request the Japan Broadcasting Corporation to conduct such tests to avoid complaints of favouritism as was done by All India Radio in Secondment cases for British Broadcasting Corporation?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTRY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT): (a) and (b) All India Radio has conducted the tect to shortlist suitable candidates for secondment to Japan Broadcasting Corporation. Final selection will be made only by Japan Broadcasting Corporation.

Regularisation of Government Accommodation in the names of their wards

467. SHRI DEBA PRASAD RAY:

SHRI JERLIE E. TARIANG:

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of employees retired from Government service since December, 1985 who were not permitted to retain Government accommodation due to the fact that their wards eligible for allotment to Government accommodation were likely to get regularisation of quarters allotted to their parents;

(b) the number of such employees and their names against whom eviction notices under Section (1) of the Public Premises Eviction of Unauthorised Occupants Act, 1971 were issued by Litigation Cell of Directorate of Estates in October/December, 86 but were subsequently withdrawn as their wards were likely to get allotment of accommodation; and

(c) what are the reasons that such employees are neither getting regularisation of the same accommodation in the names of their wards nor they are getting alternative accommodation for the past 3 to 4 years with the result that they are compelled to pay high market rent out of their meagre pension and their wards are not getting house rent allowance due to them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) and (b) No such statistics are being maintained.

(c) Regularisation/ad-hoc allotments are made to the wards of retired Government employees occupying General Pool accommodation in cases where wards are also eligible for General Pool accommodation and fulfil other prescribed conditions. Regularisation/ad-hoc allotment is not allowed in other cases.